One Public Sector Bank is yet to finalise its final accounts for the year 1986.

(b) Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have taken several measures for increasing the profitability of the Public Sector Banks. These measures include augmentation of their share capital, increased interest rates on Government Securities, abolition of interest tax, increase in the rate of interest on Food Credit and increased return on cash balances maintained by Banks with RBI. Government and the Reserve Bank of India have also been reviewing the profit position of banks regularly and appropriate remedial action is taken wherever considered necessary.

Regional Rural Banks

247. SHRI N.E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Regional Rural Banks and their branches, state-wise and the number of employees employed in these banks;

(b) whether it is a fact that the employees of these banks went on strike on 30th and 31st March this year to press for their various demands; and

(c) if so, the details of their demands and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) The required information as on 30-6-86 has been set out in the enclosed Statement. See below).

(b) and (c) Government had received copies of notices served by Employees' Unions of some Regional Rural Banks (RRB) on their Chairmen for going on strike on 30-3-87 and 31-3-87 to press their following demands:—

(i) Uniformity in pay structure & amenities with commercial banks;

(ii) Creation of negotiating forum and recognition of All India RRBs Employees Association;

(iii) Regularisation of all existing messengers without any pre-conditions;

(iv) Scale of pay for Area/Senior Managers and creation of selection / super-selection grade time-bound promotion;

(v) Increase in cash allowance & introduction of gold handling allowances;

(vi) Increase in house building loan and medical allowance.

Regional Rural Banks have been conceived as low cost institutions having limited area of operation and clientele. Section 17 of the Regional Rural Banks Act provides that the remunerations of the employees of RRBs shall be such as determined by the Central Government and while determining such remuneration the Central Government shall have due regard to the salary structure of the employees of the State Government and the local authorities at comparable level and status in the notified area. In view of this, remuneration and service conditions of the employees of Regional Rural Banks cannot be equated with the employees of other commercial banks.

As regards other demands Government have already decided to relax rules and procedures governing house building loans to RRB employees to bring them on par with those prevailing in State Government. The existing limits of medical reimbursement have also been raised with effect from 1-1-1987. The Area/Senior Managers will be allowed to get 10% of their grade pay w.e.f. 1-1-1987. The Government have also decided to regularise

daily-wages messengers subject to certain conditions.

Each RRB has a Board of its Directors to take decisions on the demands of its employees within the framework of instructions issued by Government/NABARD. The employees can also get their grievances redressed through the machinery available under existing labour laws. In view of this there is no justification for the creation of a Negotiating Forum.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of RRBs	No. of branches	No. of employees excluding Daily-wage employees
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15	996	3947
2.	Assam	5	321	1283
3.	Bihar	22	1775	5253
4.	Gujarat	9	301	883
5.	Haryana	4	218	845
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2	92	320
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	281	977
8.	Karnataka	13	973	4228
9.	Kerala	2	262	1717
10.	Madhya Pradesh	24	1415	4439
11.	Maharashtra	10	456	1431
12.	Manipur	1	22	68
13.	Meghalaya	1	41	134
14.	Nagaland	1	8	28
15.	Orissa	9	771	3078
16.	Punjab	5	112	340
17.	Rajasthan	14	975	2940
18.	Tamil Nadu	3	151	627
19.	Tripura	1	77	518
20.	Uttar Pradesh	39	2767	10067
21.	West Bengal	9	714	2888
22.	Arunachal	1	14	15
23.	Mizoram	1	33	105
	ALL INDIA :	194	12755	46131